head constable and four constables in 1105 for the new outpost at Pangode in the Nedumangad taluk and of an Inspector and a Head Constable for the more efficient control of traffic constables from the beginning of 1106. The Government have also revised from the above date the pay of the constabulary. The pay of the lowest grade has been enhanced from Rs. 9 to Rs. 11 per mensem, and an increase of Re. 1 per mensem has been granted to the constables in the other grades.

Public Works.

22. The expenditure on the Public Works Department was higher than in any previous year. The expenditure on ordinary public works charged to revenue was Rs. 42·68 lakhs against Rs. 41·95 lakhs in 1104. An expenditure of Rs. 26·79 lakhs was incurred under communications, which thus consumed nearly 72 per cent. of the gross outlay on works and repairs under all service heads. Out of this, an amount of Rs. 16·81 lakhs was devoted to the opening of new roads and to improvements and special repairs to communications and Rs. 9·98 lakhs to the maintenance of roads, traces and canals. The total length of roads newly opened and of those improved were 69 miles and 412 miles against 48 miles and 282 miles, respectively, in 1104 The total length of communications maintained during 1105 was 4,893 miles against 4,852 miles in 1104. The Neriamangalam-Pallivasal road, which is the most important road under construction, is almost completed and is expected to be thrown open to traffic soon. The Neendakara bridge, treated as a capital undertaking, was opened for traffic on the 32nd Edavom 1105 by Her Highness the Maha Rani Regent and named the Setu Lakshmi Bhayi Bridge. The bridge has cost on the whole Rs. 5·17 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·46 lakhs was spent in 1105. The expenditure on buildings fell from Rs. 7·38 lakhs in 1104 to Rs. 6·94 lakhs in 1105, of which a sum of Rs. 5·20 lakhs was spent on construction and Rs. 1·74 lakhs on annual repairs and maintenance. Under capital expenditure not charged to revenue, a sum of Rs. 8·75 lakhs was spent on the Trivandrum Water Supply Scheme, Rs. 1·17 lakhs on the Trivandrum Electric Supply Scheme, Rs. 0.53 lakh on the Trivandrum Telephone Scheme, besides the Rs. 1·46 lakhs on the Neendakara Bridge. Inclusive of the capital outlay and the expenditure on contribution works, the total amount spent by the Public Works Department during 1105 was Rs. 58·57 lakhs. Proposals have been made by the Chief Engineer for investigating a complete drainage scheme for the Trivandrum town.

Trivandrum Water Works.

23. The total expenditure on the Trivandrum Water Supply Scheme till the end of 1105 amounted to Rs. 17·83 lakhs, of which Rs. 8·75 lakhs was spent during the year. Satisfactory progress has been made in the head works at Aruvikkara. The bridge across the Karamanai river has been completed, the foundation trench for the dam has been partly finished and pneumatic drilling of the bed rock for purposes of grouting with cement to seal up the seams and fissures is being carried out. The trenching work on the main supply line has also made considerable progress. Pipe-laying and jointing were com-

menced in Thulam last. The mechanical equipment for the filter plant is under erection. Work on the low level reservoir and settling tanks will be started soon. The pipes for the town distribution system are expected to arrive shortly. The work is providing employment for about 2,000 skilled and unskilled labourers daily.

Electric Supply Schemes.

24. Inclusive of the outlay of Rs. 1·17 lakhs in 1105, the expenditure on the Trivandrum Electric Supply Scheme till the end of that year amounted to Rs. 5·31 lakhs. With the addition of the fourth generating set, the present capacity of the power station is 550 B. H. P. The total number of consumers has risen from 632 at the end of 1105 to 730 at the end of Dhanu 1106. A license has been issued to provide a scheme for the electrification of the Nagercoil town. The Alleppey Municipality has applied for the issue of a license for the electric supply to that town. The preliminary works in connection with the electrification of the Kottayam Municipality under a license already issued are in progress and estimates for the lighting of six miles of roads in the town at the cost of the Municipal Council have been sanctioned.

Railway.

25. When addressing you last year, I communicated to you the assurance that had been given me by the Railway Engineer that the work on the Tampanur Central Station and the bridges would be completed before the end of 1930 and that the first train on the extension line would be run before to-day. The progress anticipated by Mr. Marini has not, however been attained. The work on the main line and the bridges has been completed and ballast trains have been running for some time past. The Central Station building is making good progress. The extension is expected to be complete in all respects and ready for opening by the end of the current Malabar year. There was an outlay of Rs. 3·61 lakhs on the extension, thus bringing up the total expenditure thereon at the end of 1105 to Rs. 11·16 lakhs.

Village Panchayats.

26. Rules under the Village Panchayat Regulation were passed in August 1930. The three Dewan Peishkars have been appointed *ex-officio* Registrars under the Regulation and proposals have been received for the constitution of Panchayats in some selected villages. These proposals are under consideration.

Public Health.

27. The general health of the people has been satisfactory. There was no cholera in epidemic form during the year; but small-pox was prevalent in some localities, especially in the municipal towns of Alleppey and Trivandrum; and recently there has been a recrudescence of the disease in some parts of the State. Vaccination is being vigorously carried on in the affected areas, and the Trivandrum Municipality and the Sanitary Department have been given additional temporary